

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Applicants enclose new Figs. 5 and 12, which replace original Figs. 5 and 12, and in S46 and S65, respectively, replace "converse" with "convert."

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the previous amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-10 are pending. By this Amendment, the specification is amended to correct an informality, Figs. 5 and 12 are replaced with corrected Figs. 5 and 12 and claims 1, 2 and 5-8 are amended. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments.

The Office Action objects to Figs. 5 and 12. Figs. 5 and 12 are replaced with new Figs. 5 and 12 to address the Office Action's objection.

The Office Action objects to claims 5 and 6. Claims 5 and 6 are amended to correct the informalities noted in paragraph 2 of the Office Action.

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 6 is amended to address the concerns noted in the Office Action at paragraph 5.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2003/0113027 to Chan et al. in view of JP 2002-251352 to Yoko et al. and claims 3-6, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Chan in view of JP 2000-251061 to Yukihiro et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Chan discloses a method of reconstructing an image which includes constructing a codestream. Following the writing of the codestream, additional metadata, such as XML metadata describing the image content, is written as a final step. See Chan at paragraphs [0170], [0192], [0193] and Figs. 9, 10, 13 and 18.

The coding apparatus of claim 1 and the coding method of claim 7 differ in fundamental respects relative to the disclosure in Chan. The coding apparatus of

amended claim 1 comprises an XML box adder which positions an XML box that can store a specific data into a bit stream constructing a JPEG2000 file based on a relation to data corresponding to a predetermined level of wavelet decomposition. In Chan, all header boxes that may optionally be included as part of a JPX file and do not influence the reconstruction of the image data, for example, metadata in XML boxes, are included after the contiguous code stream box. The XML box is placed at the end of the file regardless of the previous box's level of wavelength decomposition. Thus, Chan discloses that the XML boxes are merely included at the end of the file. Therefore, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the disclosure in Chan.

Similarly, claim 7 is amended to make this distinction more clear. Claim 7 is amended to recite positioning an XML box that can store a specific data into a bit stream constructing said JPEG2000 file based on a relation to data corresponding to a predetermined level of wavelet decomposition. It is thus respectfully submitted that claim 7 is also patentably distinguishable over the disclosure in Chan.

With respect to dependent claims 2 and 8, Chan does not disclose a selector configured to allow a user to select whether to read an XML box added into a bitstream of a JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding executed by the JPEG2000 decoder as in dependent claim 2 or selecting whether to read an XML box added into a bit stream of JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding as in dependent claim 8.

The Examiner relies on Chan for allegedly suggesting that the mere presence of an XML box would have made it obvious to make the extraction and processing of an XML box optional. However, claim 2 recites that the selector is configured to

allow a user to select in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding. In a non-limiting example described in the specification at page 12, beginning at paragraph [0045] of applicants' specification, when data is received, the data is automatically decoded in order of precedence. A selecting screen includes a message "READ XML DATA?" If "yes" is selected, then the user may further select "DISPLAY TEXT DATA." If "DISPLAY TEXT DATA" is selected, text data produced by converting the read-in XML data is displayed as well as a low resolution image. Thus, readability of a character in a character area included in original image data can be obtained at a relatively early stage of receiving the coded data of the JPEG2000 file by reading the XML data stored in the XML box.

In Chan, the XML box is included at the end of the file. Thus, even if one were motivated to include the feature of optionally extracting and processing the XML, as asserted in paragraph 9 of the Office Action, Chan does not disclose a selector configured to allow a user to select to read an XML box in the middle of JPEG 2000 decoding. The XML box in Chan could only be decoded at the end of JPEG2000 decoding. Similarly, with respect to dependent claim 8, Chan does not disclose or suggest selecting whether to read an XML box added into a bit stream of a JPEG2000 file in the middle of JPEG2000 decoding. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 8 are patentably distinguished over Chan.

Yoko does not overcome the deficiencies of Chan discussed above. In Yoko, image data is divided into an alphabetic character field, and graphic form field and a photograph field. The image data, character code data and vector data, are changed into a single file. Character code data in the file is extracted and compared to predetermined key information. Yoko does not disclose positioning an XML box

based on a relation to data corresponding to a predetermined level of wavelet decomposition nor selecting whether to read an XML box in the middle of decoding.

With respect to the rejection of claims 3-6, 9 and 10, the Office Action recognizes that Chan does not disclose an area discriminator which discriminates an area defined in each of objects contained in the image data and acquires position information of the area and an XML data producer which produces XML data corresponding to position information of each area discriminated by the area discriminator as in independent claim 3 and producing XML data corresponding to position information of each of a discriminated area and storing the produced XML data in the XML box of the bit stream constructing the JPEG2000 file as in independent claim 9.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's assertion that Yukihiro overcomes the deficiencies of Chan. In Yukihiro, the RGB code output from the image input means 2 is compressed by compression means which carries out sequential encoding compression. First storage means 4 saves the image on which the coding compression was carried out. Location measuring means 5 measures the correspondence location in the position coordinate in a subject-copy image and the compressed data after compression. Second storage means 6 saves the result of the measurement by the measurement means 5. See Yukihiro at paragraph [0025]. As discussed in paragraph [0032] of Yukihiro, the coding compressed data is saved in first storage means 4 and the positional information data is saved in second storage means 6 and are sent to a computer 7 through a circuit 9. They are not part of the same file or placed in the same bit stream. In claims 3 and 9 the XML box which stores the XML data produced by the XML data producer is stored in a bit

stream constructing the JPEG2000 file which includes the image data. Yukihiro does not disclose that the positional information data is included in the same file as the coding compressed data. Furthermore, Yukihiro does not disclose XML data corresponding to position information as in independent claims 3 and 9. It is thus respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 9 are patentably distinguishable over the disclosures of Chan and Yukihiro, alone or in combination.

Similarly, with respect to dependent claim 4, Yukihiro does not disclose the position information acquirer which acquires a position information of each area discriminated by the area discriminator based on the XML data stored in the XML box added into each JPEG2000 file which includes image data because the compressed data and the positional information are not included in the same file.

The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above as well as for the individual features they recite.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Examiner is respectfully urged to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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